

PRESIDENT: The amendment is adopted.

CLERK: The next motion up is one offered by Senator Goodrich.

PRESIDENT: Read the motion.

CLERK: Mr. President, I move to indefinitely postpone LB 180. Signed Senator Chambers.

PRESIDENT: Chair recognizes Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: The motion, members of the Legislature, is to kill this bill. I think it is something offered to the directors which is not warranted or justified especially in view of the high costs to the consumer right now.

PRESIDENT: Senator Kelly.

SENATOR KELLY: Mr. President, members of the Legislature. Certainly kill this bill. Insurances provided by an employer is a fringe benefit and it should be an employees benefit and it should be a part of the cost of whatever that operation is and in this case public power. People that are serving on the boards of directors of public power districts are "part-time employees" and without exception, to my knowledge, are employed in gainful occupations other than the public power district board. In almost all cases and no exceptions that I know of, those board members have health and accident insurance in their other forms, their regular form of employment. Most all insurance plans will not pay twice should the power district buy health and accident insurance for their directors, the district will pay the premium and when there's a time for a claim for those directors it probably will be charged against their primary insurance and the only thing we've got here is welfare for insurance companies. We don't need another one. Certainly we kill this bill.

PRESIDENT: Senator Koch.

SENATOR KOCH: Mr. President, members of the body. I rise in support of the proposed legislation. These individuals who seek that office seek it for the purpose of providing a service to the public and generally at an expense to their own lives and to their own individual profession. If these individuals and the companies they work for are willing to adopt such a program, then it should be made available. I'm rather surprised at those who believe that the rate payers are suffering today and sometimes they don't realize that because of the proper management of men and women who serve on these boards, that the rate payers are probably receiving a great benefit. Therefore, I suggest that we allow this privilege to the members of those boards who are serving the public and a great interest. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Dworak.

SENATOR DWORAK: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to probably ask a question of Senator Goodrich. If this bill is killed, then will it be illegal, absolutely illegal, for any board member of a power district to have any group health insurance?

SENATOR GOODRICH: That is the conclusion arrived at by one law firm to the effect that it would be illegal for any power district to do this because they would interpret that the directors are not employees, but they are directors